

Husband:

**JOZEF JÁN KUTARŇA**

Born: 4 January 1862 Spisská Stará Ves, Kežmarok, Slovakia<sup>1</sup>  
 Married: 25 June 1884 Spisská Stará Ves, Kežmarok, Slovakia  
 Died: 18 April 1922 Forest City, Susquehanna County, Pa.<sup>2</sup>  
 Buried: *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*, Forest City, Pa.  
 Father: JÁN KUTARŇA (15 Dec. 1815 - 2 May 1881)  
 Mother: ANNA VÝROSTEK (6 April 1830 - 11 May 1887)

Wife:

**KATARÍNA HASAY**

Born: 30 Dec. 1859 Spisská Stará Ves, Kežmarok, Slovakia  
 Died: 8 March 1933 Forest City, Susquehanna County, Pa.  
 Buried: *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*, Forest City, Pa.  
 Father: JOZEF HASAY  
 Mother: MARIA ZADYORA

ISSUE:	BORN:	WHERE:
1) JOZEF FRANTIŠEK KUTARŇA	27 August 1885	Spisská Stará Ves, Kežmarok
2) FRANTIŠEK JOZEF KUTARŇA	25 July 1886	Spisská Stará Ves, Kežmarok
3) ANNA MÁRIA KUTARŇA	<b>22 July 1889</b>	<b>Plymouth, Luzerne Co, Pa.</b>
4) JÁN A. KUTARŇA	4 May 1891	Forest City, Susquehanna, Pa.
5) MICHAL JÁN KUTARŇA	22 March 1893	Forest City, Susquehanna, Pa.
6) MÁRIA KUTARŇA	29 January 1895	Forest City, Susquehanna, Pa.
7) KATARÍNA KUTARŇA	29 June 1897	Forest City, Susquehanna, Pa.
8) ( <i>unnamed daughter</i> )	1898	Forest City, Susquehanna, Pa.
9) ŠTEFAN KUTARŇA	14 August 1899	Forest City, Susquehanna, Pa.
10) HELENA KUTARŇA	26 June 1903	Forest City, Susquehanna, Pa.

The KUTARŇA family hails from a village in the Carpathian Mountains in the Kežmarok district in Spis county in the Slovak Republic named Stará Ves. In pre-World War I Stará Ves is *Ófalu* in Hungarian and *Altendorf* in German while Spis is *Szepes* in Hungarian and *Zips* in German and the area was known as Upper Hungary. The name means *Old Town* in all three languages.

Surnames: KUTARŇA is likely Ukrainian in origin. The - *ňa* is common in the Ukraine while being rare elsewhere in Eastern Europe according to those with some level of expertise beyond amateur have stated. The phonetic pronunciation of the final syllable of the surname, - *ňa*, is pronounced “-nya” as in *California*. KUTARNYA is the correct way to spell the name in English, but, that spelling could also be correctly pronounced “-nī-uh” (like Nile without the “l”). The ending “-nia” is more likely to be pronounced correctly. Perhaps somewhat ironically, the first record found with the Americanized spelling is the passenger list of the *SS Westphalia* in 1886 before they even left the continent – perhaps the agent was an American!. HASAY is much more straight-forward – HASAY is the Slovak form but it has a ‘sz’ sound in the middle when spoken but that sound is not written phonetically – no good explanation – it just is. The Magyar alphabet

has a *sz* diphthong and it is appropriately inserted giving us *HASZAY* which is correct sounding and spelled correctly phonetically.

Given Names: I have used the Slovak forms of most given names for the time they were in Slovakia and as they appear, or should appear, in Pennsylvanian baptismal registers. Thereafter Americanized forms are used unless the record cited used the original form whether Slovak or Magyar. *JOZEF JÁN* is the way the given name is written in Slovak while *JÓZSEF JÁNOS* is the Hungarian. *JOSEF* is an accepted Slovak alternative spelling. Most formal documents use the Hungarian form and it appears that *JOZEF* actually used the Hungarian form throughout his life but as this form can be quite different and, taking into account the antipathy between the two nationalities, I have opted for Slovak forms wherever possible. *KATARINA* (without the accent) is Hungarian while *KATARÍNA* is Slovak. Our great-grandmother often used the diminutive *KATTIE*. I have opted to use the Slovak form for given names where possible despite the area being technically a part of Hungary. Church registers often used Latin but that spelling can be substantially different (e.g. *VALENTINE* for *BALINT*); Czech is often the closest and has been used when a Slovak version has not been found.

The Ukrainian population living in the Carpathian Mountains of Slovakia was numerous enough to warrant a separate identity – they are the *Rusyns*. Slovakia is not unique in this way - in other countries the Ukrainian ex-patriot population are the *Ruthenians*.



**Kostol Nanebovzatia Panny Márie, 14th c, remodeled 1772  
Roman Catholic Church of the Assumption**

Altar dates from 1765

FATHER JAKAB BOHINSKY married JOZEF and KATARÍNA at the *Kostol Nanebovzatia Panny Márie* (*Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary*) in Spisská Stará Ves. The witnesses were PAVOL DEMSKY and ADALBERTUS STEFANYAK. KATARÍNA had been living with her parents at No. 19 in Stará Ves while JOZEF was living at No. 63, possibly next to his father at No. 62. After their marriage they lived at No. 44.



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The great demand for unskilled laborers in the U.S., combined with the oppressive Hungarian regime over the Slovaks which limited his career possibilities and restricted his schooling to the most rudimentary one allowed; the lack of land suitable for farming in agrarian Slovakia and the promise of good wages and good living conditions from representatives of companies such as the *Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Coal Company* of Plymouth, Pennsylvania all fed into his decision to move to the U.S. It must have been a difficult decision to make – he had been married for a couple years, had an infant son and another on the way. But move he did, becoming one of the 14% of Spis males, age 20-25 that left between 1869 and 1890 and adding to the growing number of Slovaks that started moving to the mining regions of the northeastern corner of Pennsylvania in 1875. Probably familiar with the advertisements such as the ones at the top of the page, JOZEF started a new life when he left Stará Ves for Hamburg, Germany, a journey of almost 900 miles. He probably traveled that distance by first taking a coach to Poprad; then boarded a train to Prague and another to Hamburg. Advance reservations were necessary as 2, 3 or even 4 weeks may be spent waiting for an available opening. The train cost 10 crowns per person. In Prague, he contacted the Minister of the Interior to answer any questions he may have. He exchanged his Austrian banknotes for German money, hopefully in Slovakia where the exchange rate was better. JOZEF and many other men from Spis were dispatched by MR. AUGUST BOLTON from Hamburg on 10 March 1886 on the *S.S. Westphalia*, of the Hamburg-American Steamship Company.





A photo of the Hamburg warehouses with wagons and a horse in the foreground. This was published in an unknown magazine.  
Photo courtesy of Maralyn Wellauer.

He traveled in steerage class which cost \$28.00 in 1883. Warm clothes were a necessity and staying on deck strongly recommended to avoid seasickness. Meals were served according to groups of 8 to 16 travelers, called a *back* led by the *backmeister* who distributed food fairly to each person. The ships of this line were known for their adequate food and space though steerage class was usually characterized by a lack of food, water, privacy and sanitation. If he brought a trunk with him, it must have been able to fit under his berth, 18 inches high. He was lucky in that the crossing took only 12 days. He arrived in New York on 22 March.<sup>3</sup>

Once there, the ship dropped anchor off of Staten Island while an official health inspector checked for signs of contagious illnesses. Once clear, the ship dropped anchor near Castle Garden Immigration Station (Ellis Island was six years in the future). U.S. Immigration officials boarded the ship and customs officials examined and marked each trunk, suitcase or bag with numbered copper tags. JOZEF received identical tags as his claim check. He would transfer to a barge or tugboat to make the final over-water part of the trip to be processed through the Immigration Station.



Once inside, a Czech or Hungarian clerk would assist him in filling out paperwork, claiming his bags and answering questions. He was also able to exchange whatever foreign money he had at one of the supervised exchange brokers. He could purchase a railroad ticket there and be escorted through town to Grand Central Station by officials.

**CASTLE GARDEN**  
Castle Garden operated as the immigrant receiving station from 1 August 1855 to 18 April 1890. The building, originally the Southwest Battery, was constructed between 1808 and 1811 and it stood 200 feet from shore. In 1817 it was named Castle Clinton in honor of DeWitt Clinton, Mayor of New York City. The army vacated in 1821 and by 1824 Castle Garden opened as an entertainment center and when it closed in 1854, it housed an opera house and a stage theater. It is, once again, named Castle Clinton and has become part of Battery Park as the shoreline enveloped the structure.

#### PLYMOUTH, LUZERNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA: 1886 – 1890

Little is known about JOZEF's first few years in Plymouth. First off we are left to ponder just how he even knew of tiny little Plymouth on the other side of the planet. Plymouth lies astride Pine Swamp Creek (Brown's Creek) on the north bank of the Susquehanna River. Coal had discovered there years earlier but only in the 1870s did the large coal companies take notice. One of the earliest mines was bought by the *Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Coal Company* who leased it to

the *Parrish Coal Company*. The first Parrish breaker was located right in town between Academy and Girard streets, bordering the “lower town” where the Eastern European immigrant community had located. The large mining companies actively sought Eastern Europeans because they worked for low wages, and thus undercut the bargaining power of the increasingly organized Irish and Welsh miners. They were active as strike-breakers which did little to foster good relations with the older Plymouth residents. As one of the earliest of the large coal companies, *Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Coal Company* undoubtedly had representatives traveling through Spis looking for workers.

Just the year before JOZEF arrived, the *Hungarian community* was blamed for an outbreak of typhoid fever when fault lay with a local dairy farmer who had inadvertently polluted the town’s water supply; being closest to that supply, the Eastern Europeans experienced a higher rate of disease and were among the first cases to be diagnosed. The high rate among those first stricken, coupled with the already present animosity of the towns people, led many to wrongly conclude that the cause must be the Hungarians pitiful and dirty living conditions. Despite this animosity, the foreign populations were growing and which ones in particular had large numbers can be surmised from the growth of the Roman Catholic Church in the area. When JOZEF got to Plymouth there were two Roman Catholic Churches he could attend and understand – *Saint Mary’s* opened on Willow Street in 1885, serving the Polish and Lithuanian communities and *Saint Stephen the King (Hungarian) Roman Catholic Church* opened at 24 Wadham Street in 1886 serving the Slovaks. The Church closed in 2006 and the congregation was consolidated with *Saint Mary’s* to become *All Saints Parish* at 66 Willow Street in Plymouth. Given this we can easily conclude that these three were the largest, or among the largest, of the foreign colonies. It is interesting to note that it wasn’t thought necessary to have a church for Hungarians – to the other Plymouth residents, they were all Hungarians no matter where they came from!

JOZEF started working in the coal mines immediately, probably for the *Parrish Coal Company* whose first breaker was a few blocks from “Little Slovakia.” He most likely stayed in boarding houses run by other Slovaks, saving up his earnings. In less than a year he had saved enough money to send for his wife, and perhaps one or both sons. He probably bought prepaid tickets on this side of the Atlantic and sent them to his wife. Such a ticket would cover all travel costs between two major cities, probably Prague or Fiume to New York and cost approximately one hundred dollars. It is not known when KATTIE left Stará Ves. Records state she emigrated here in 1887. As a woman traveling alone, or with small children, she may have accompanied a close male friend or relative and used his surname. No evidence has been discovered that would indicate JOZEF returned to Slovakia to escort his family to the new world. FRANK and JOZEF, JUNIOR may have accompanied her but some records of later dates indicate that FRANK and JOZEF stayed in Hungary until 1897 while the earlier records give the same year as their mother for immigration. On 25 January 1887 the first Parrish Coal Company’s breaker between Academy and Girard Streets was completely destroyed by fire. This did not deter JOZEF or delay his plans; his wife was with him no later than October 1888. JOZEF and KATTIE lived in Plymouth, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania where the family increased by one when their daughter ANNA was born in July 1889. *JOSEPH KUTARNIA* is found as a *coal-loader* living at the intersection of Carver and Vine in the 1889 Plymouth city directory.<sup>4</sup> Located in the northeast section of town, it looks as if there may have been a building on each corner that is no longer standing however if the lots were always empty, the buildings standing today look like they were built before 1889, in which case he lived in a single family house at 303 or a multifamily building at 306-312 Carver Street. They attended church at *Saint Stephen’s* until they moved in 1890. Before that move though, JOZEF,



**SS Dania, 1889**

seemingly alone, returned to the old country in late 1889 or early 1890. As their son FRANK was born in July 1886, four months after JOZEF left for the New World the first time, FRANK only met his father when he was three years old. JOZEF returned when he sailed on the steamship *Dania*, of the Hamburg-America Line, from Hamburg on 26 June 1890, arriving at New York City on 8 July. Described as a 29-year-old workman from *Szepes Ofalu* of Hungarian citizenship, he may have, in fact, travelled with ANDREAS PISARCIK, a 40-year-old workman from *Matyasfalu*. JOSEPH PISARCIK became his son-in-law and, though the relationship is not certain, it is notable that JOZEF and ANDREAS are adjacent in the passenger lists.<sup>5</sup> The Castle Garden Immigration Station had closed in April and was replaced by the Barge Office. The *Dania* was a new single-funnel, double-masted ship with accommodations for 30 1<sup>st</sup>-class and 1,400 3<sup>rd</sup>-class passengers. She made her maiden voyage in December 1889. The next trip of the *Dania* after JOZEF's return was more eventful; she was heading for Lower New York Bay on the night of August 20<sup>th</sup> when she ran aground and became stranded off Point Lookout, opposite Jones's Inlet on Long Island. It was only floated two-and-a-half days later at high tide in the early morning hours of 23 August. The Barge Office would not let the passengers disembark so they remained onboard the *Dania* or the *Normannia* which was brought in for that purpose. But this pales when compared to her encounter with rough weather *off the Banks* during June 1895 when her propeller shaft broke. Luckily it was but a short time before her distress call was answered and she was towed 350 miles to New York Harbor. Her troubles with New York were not yet over; on 30 November 1920 she sank in the harbor after colliding with the steamship *San Marcos*.<sup>6</sup>



#### FOREST CITY, SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

In 1890 or early 1891 JOSEPH and KATHERINE moved their growing family to Forest City in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania. The town was first named Forest Mills from 1864 to 1879, followed by Pentecost, after its founder, from 1879 to 1886 when it was changed a third time to Forest City in 1886. Coal had been discovered there before 1870. The *Hillside Coal and Iron Company*, owned by the Erie Railroad, bought large tracts of land in the area, and by 1872 it was the first profitable coal company in town. In 1884 they sunk Shaft #1 at the beginning of Delaware Street (now in the Industrial Park) and opened the Clifford Breaker nearby. In the fall of 1886, Shaft #2 was sunk near the Clifford Breaker (now in the Franceski Lumber Yard) and a third shaft, the Clifford slope, opened in 1889. Miners from Eastern and Southern Europe began arriving in Forest City to meet the demand and to supplement that, miners from nearby towns were made enticing offers. The *Hillside Coal and Iron Company* needed miners for their expanding coal mines and probably offered better terms than what they were getting to those that would relocate.

JOSEPH and KATHERINE moved and almost immediately joined the Forest City Lodge Number 30, of the new and secular *National Slovak Society* on 1 March 1891. The NSS, founded 16 February 1890, was an organization of local Slovak social groups that formed to keep alive

the traditional Slovak customs as well as help them to assimilate into society at large by teaching English, helping with naturalization, etc. They celebrated holidays together and now the NSS is one of the oldest Slovak organizations in this country. Membership in the NSS brought with it one very important benefit – insurance. Through the NSS JOSEPH obtained \$1000.00 insurance policy with KATARINA as beneficiary. At the same time KATARINA obtained a \$500.00 policy with JOSEPH as beneficiary. It is interesting to note that JOSEPH gave his birth date as 3 January 1861 in some of the NSS records.<sup>7</sup> There were no Catholic Churches serving Eastern European communities there in 1890 so, if they went to church, they went to *Saint Agnes' Church* which had been built for the Irish two years earlier; their daughter MARY was baptized here. *Saint Anthony of Padua* became the second Catholic Church when it opened at 512 Lackawanna Street in 1894 for the Lithuanian population and may have provided a slightly more amenable congregation though they did not speak Lithuanian. Their remaining children were all baptized here. Another option was *Saint John's Byzantine Catholic Church* which opened in 1897 but it is not known what language was used for mass. Two more national churches opened in 1904: *Saint Joseph's* was Slovenian and *Sacred Heart of Jesus* was Polish. *Sacred Heart* also had the only Catholic cemetery which the KUTARNIA family used though Saint Agnes had one since 1895. They waited another decade before a Slovak church opened; one did when the old Baptist church became *Saint Michael the Archangel* in 1914. National churches were under the authority of the country they served, not the Diocese of Scranton, which helped to delay their creation. *Sacred Heart* is the only church listed that remains open; *Saints Agnes, Anthony, Michael and Joseph* were merged to form the *Ascension of Our Lord Parish Church* in 2010 which uses a renovated *Saint Joseph's*. The other three were razed.

Just where the family lived for the first eight years in Forest City is unknown. On 3 August 1898 JOSEPH bought lots 3 and 4 on Delaware Street from the *Hillside Coal and Iron Company* for \$300.00. Each lot had a house on it; the larger became the KUTARNIA homestead at 243 Delaware while the smaller, at 237 Delaware, was usually rented out. The deed reserves the rights to coal and other minerals to the company. It also stipulates that no spirituous, malt or vinous liquors whatever are allowed on the premises. On 25 June 1908, JOSEPH sold the lots to his wife; she sold them to their son JOSEPH on 14 June 1910; JOSEPH immediately resold them to his parents that same day! Three more deeds regarding this property appear in the records: (1) in 1924, KATHERINE and the estate of JOSEPH sold the 237 Delaware Street lot to MICHAEL LOZAR; (2) in 1932 title to the homestead was transferred to son JOSEPH KUTARNIA; and (3) a later deed of uncertain date is from JOSEPH KUTARNIA by the authority of the *Susquehanna County Treasurer* to the *Susquehanna County Commissioners*.<sup>8</sup> The last of these sounds like the 243 Delaware Street property was forfeited for unpaid taxes. The KUTARNIA family was settled into a house on Delaware Street and the future looked good. In 1900 the house number of the homestead was 85 but thereafter all records give the current house number of 243. They also had up to five boarders in the homestead besides the renters at 237. In 1899 Forest City was hit with a major fire which burned down thirteen buildings.

They celebrated their Silver (25<sup>th</sup>) Wedding Anniversary on 25 June 1909 and had a formal picture taken with their nine surviving children (*see following page*). KATARÍNA is the quintessential Slovak woman - heavy set, stern looking, no nonsense, hair pulled back and



towering over her husband even though they are both seated. JOZEF is remembered as a very quiet man and it shows through.

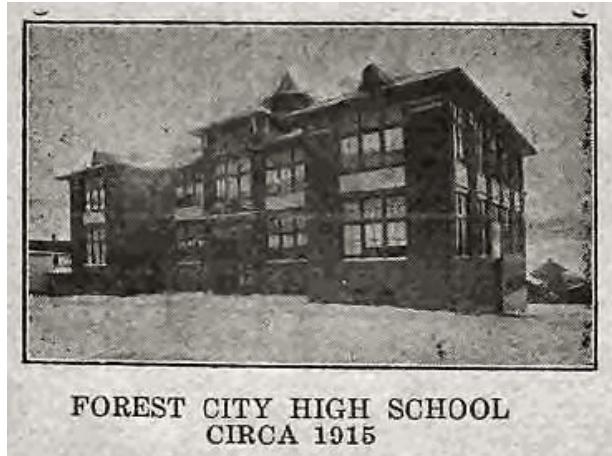


JOSEPH, JOHN, ANNA, FRANK & MICHAEL (*Standing L>R*)  
KATTIE, HELEN, KATARÍNA and JOZEF, MARY & STEVEN (*Seated L>R*)

A letter, dated 11 March 1912, gives their mailing address as Box 425, Forest City.<sup>9</sup> In 1910 JOSEPH was a mason for the mines. The 1920 census has them at 243 Delaware Street with their children JOSEPH, STEPHEN, "ELLEN", and JOHN. JOSEPH is a laborer in the coalmines.<sup>10</sup> They never became fluent in English, opting instead to speak a Slovak – Polish mix with some Hungarian words and phrases thrown in.<sup>11</sup> JOSEPH worked as a miner for the *Hillside Coal and Iron Company* until his health deteriorated.



NO 2 SCHOOL—CIRCA 1920



FOREST CITY HIGH SCHOOL  
CIRCA 1915

As to their education, the KUTARNIA children would have attended School 2 on South Main Street which opened in 1900, followed by the Borough High School which had opened in 1897.

The KUTARNIA boys formed a band with JOHN playing the bass, MIKE playing the clarinet, FRANK playing the accordion, and JOSEPH JUNIOR playing the violin.<sup>12</sup>

JOSEPH had to stop working on 6 January 1922 due to miner's asthma, according to a *Physician's Certificate* signed by his doctor G.L. McGUNN, M.D.<sup>13</sup> He took ill with influenza, complicated by acute bronchitis on 8 April 1922. JOSEPH KUTARNIA passed away on 18 April 1922, the cause being *miner's asthma*, written as *mayners azma* in NSS documents. However, a death certificate for the NSS gives the cause as *influenza*. His funeral mass was officiated by REVEREND A. HALICKI of *Sacred Heart of Jesus Church* and the undertaker was M.J. CONNELLY. He was buried on 21 April 1922 in *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*. His obituary states he was *one of Forest City's best known and most highly regarded residents*.<sup>14</sup>

1922 was not a good year for KATARINA, she lost her husband and her health began to deteriorate. She began having heart trouble and it was discovered she had diabetes. KATARINA received full payment from JOSEPH'S NSS insurance policy on 6 May 1922. On 14 January 1924, KATARINA designated the beneficiaries of her NSS insurance policy as follows: *JOSEPH KUTARNIA, son, 36, Forest City, ANNIE KUTARNIA, daughter, 34, Brae Home, WV, JOHN KUTARNIA, son, 32, Forest City, MIKE KUTARNIA, son, 30, Forest City, MARY KUTARNIA, daughter, 28, Camden, NJ, STEFAN KUTARNIA, son, 22, Forest City, HELLEN KUTARNIA, daughter, 19, Forest City, and JOHN KUTARNIA, grandson, 14, Forest City.* Another designation, dated 28 January 1929, deletes daughter MARY who had died. In 1931, daughter ANNA was dropped, as was grandson JOHN.<sup>15</sup>

The 1930 US Census shows KATTIE in the homestead with the following: her single children JOSEPH and STEVE; her married daughters family, HERMAN and HELEN GLEASON and their son ROBERT; her 19 year old nephew JOHN KUTARNIA, son of FRANK; and her 7 year old niece MARIE PISARCIK, the daughter of MARY (KUTARNIA) PISARCIK who passed away in 1924.

KATARINIA KUTARNIA dated a will 11 June 1932 that was presented on 14 March 1933. In it she bequeathed her household goods equally between her son JOSEPH and daughter HELEN GLEASON, \$100.00 to each of her surviving children: *JOSEPH, HELEN, MIKE, JOHN, STEPHEN and ANNA*, \$100.00 to her grandson JOHN, most likely SONNY KUTARNIA, son of FRANK, who she raised after FRANK'S death. JOHN GLINSKY of Forest City was appointed executor and it was witnessed by EDWARD STRATFORD and JOSEPH DEGMA.<sup>16</sup> KATTIE apparently had a heart attack on 1 March 1933 after which she was attended by H. BLIMOCOWSKI, M.D. She passed away on 8 March 1933 in Forest City. Her death was due to diabetes mellitus, and acute dilatation of the heart. REVEREND A. HALICKI, of *Sacred Heart of Jesus Church*, officiated as he had for her husband eleven years before. Her appointed executor, JOHN F. GLINSKY, doubled as her undertaker. She was buried on 11 March 1933 in *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*. Her obituary states that she was *one of the best known and most highly respected residents in this section and her death will be deeply mourned*.<sup>17</sup>



Their gravestone has the inscription *REST IN PEACE AMEN:*

*ODPOČIVEJTE V POKOJU*

KATARINA'S year of birth is given as 1864, an error which, to date, has no explanation. After her death, a letter from JOHN A. KUTARNIA to the NSS was specific in its meaning to delete

*ANNE SMITH of Trenton, NJ* as a payee on the insurance check as only the five children in Forest City had paid the funeral and burial expenses. \$27.50 was reserved to the NSS as a result of earlier financial difficulties experienced by the organization. On 1 April 1933, her children JOSEPH, JOHN, MICHAEL, STEPHEN and HELEN received payment of \$472.50 from the NSS, as payment on her insurance policy.

Their son JOSEPH took over the homestead and is found there in 1940 with his sister HELEN's family: her husband HERMAN and their children ROBERT and EDWARD. His niece MARIE PISARCIK, daughter of MARIE, was also living there. The neighboring house at 237 Delaware was being rented by JOSEPH and MARTHA BERISH. Oddly another house with the number 239 shows up in this census.<sup>18</sup>

Two others with this surname have been found in the area: a JOHN KUTARNIA in Forest City in 1900 and a GEORGE KUTARNIA in Susquehanna County in 1910 but it is not known if they were related. In 2014 the author uncovered a branch of the family that apparently moved across the Dunajec River, settling in the village of Frydman, Poland. A 16 year old JÁN KUTARNIA arrived in New York aboard the *Fürst Bismarck* on 19 August 1899 from Frydman. Some of the family emigrated to Canada before settling in Pittsburg, PA.

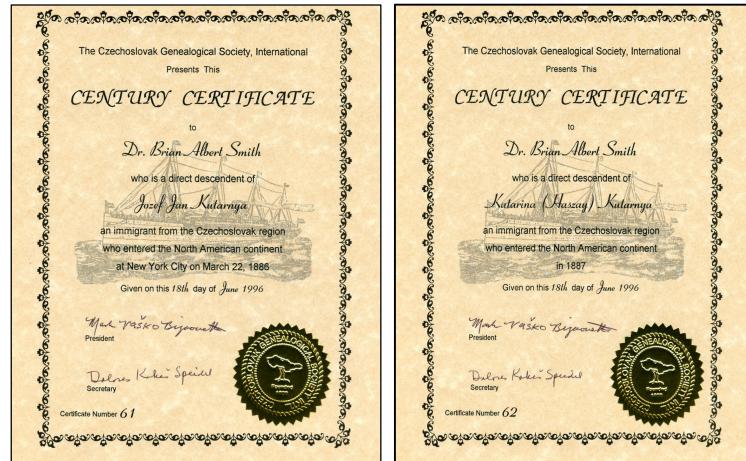


In 1991 JOSEPH and KATHRYN's descendants had their names placed on the *American Immigrant Wall of Honor* at the *Ellis Island Immigration Station National Park* to both honor their ancestors and support the effort to rehabilitate the place even though

**Jerome F. Kutak  
Nellie Nicola Kutan  
Joseph J. and Catherine Haszay  
Kutarnia  
Nickodine Lawrence Kutas  
Stanley Adam Kutas**

Ellis Island did not open until 1892. Much of the stone used in the massive constructions was obtained from the Forest City quarry.<sup>19</sup>

In 2001, their great-grandson (and this author), BRIAN A. SMITH obtained *Century Certificates* from the *Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International* in recognition of JOSEPH and KATARINA's decision to emigrate. A short biography was published in *Naše Rodina*, the Society's newsletter that same year.<sup>20</sup>



Issue:<sup>21</sup>

- 1) JOZEF FRANTIŠEK KUTARNIA: baptized 29 August 1885, sponsors were MARIA STEFANYAK and ANTON LOSTELNIZSAK. He is thought to have emigrated with his mother in 1887. His World War I draft card, dated 5 June 1917, gives his name as JOSEPH FRANCIS KUTARNIA, JUNIOR being born on 29 August 1887 in *Stravries Spiska Austria* (Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary). He is listed as a self-employed barber and a *naturalized citizen* living at 243 Delaware. He is described as having a medium height, slender build, dark hair, gray eyes and his right leg is crippled.<sup>22</sup> He only completed 3 years of schooling and as found as a slate-packer in the coalmines in 1900 and by 1910 he was a weigh-master for a coal broker. He became a barber and operated his shop in the first floor of the KUTARNIA homestead, living there through 1940 at least.<sup>23</sup> He later had a shop on Main Street. He was involved in several land transfers with his parents over the years, as noted earlier. He became a Justice of the Peace. He never married. He suffered a heart attack on 1 March 1964 and died three days later in Saint Joseph's Hospital in Carbondale (Lackawanna County). He was buried in *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*.
- 2) FRANTIŠEK JOZEF KUTARNIA: baptized 26 July 1884. He worked as a *driver* in 1900. He obtained a license to marry MARY GILMORE on 29 December 1905. This states he was born 25 July 1883 in Austria, and worked as *car-runner* in Forest City where he lived. His wife was born in England or Ireland in August 1884, was living on Main Street in Simpson, Fell Township, Lackawanna County and was employed as a *silk worker*.<sup>24</sup> They had two sons, JOHN and JOSEPH, and two daughters, CATHERINE and HELEN, before MARY died from pneumonia on 24 July 1914. Her death followed that of their son by just 6 weeks; she was buried in *Saint Rose of Lima Cemetery* in Carbondale. In 1917 he was living on Midland Street in Simpson where he was a miner for the Delaware & Hudson Coal Company.<sup>25</sup> By 1920, FRANK had married a woman named ADELINA MEBS (born 1894 to FRED MEBS and CAROLINE GEYSER) His World War I draft card states he was born in Lackawanna County. In the 1920 census it states he emigrated in 1897 and was naturalized in 1904. He was a coal mine foreman, living on Morris Avenue in Simpson with his wife LINA in 1920.<sup>26</sup> They are on Rogers Avenue in Carbondale by 1926 where FRANK is a foreman.<sup>27</sup> FRANK had surgery in 1928 at Hahnemann Hospital in Scranton on July 30<sup>th</sup> to remove a sarcoma (muscle tumor) from his left thigh but died there from complications of the surgery on 5 August 1928. The informant for his death certificate gave an incorrect date of birth, 26 July 1887, and incorrect place of birth, *Austria*. His wife is named as ADELINA KUTARNIA and his parents as JOSEPH KUTARNIA and KATARINA HASSAK, both from *Austria*. After his name appears *Forest City* which probably indicates where the burial would take place.<sup>28</sup> He is interred in *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*. After his death ADELINA married DANIEL H. WILLIAMS on 30 April 1929 in Scranton, PA. ADELINA outlived her husband and died 21 November 1954 in Scranton and was buried in the *Shady Lane Cemetery* in Chinchilla, Lackawanna County. What happened to JOSEPH is not known and SONNY moves to the homestead to be raised by his grandmother.
  - a) CATHERINE MARIE KUTARNIA: married JOHN JOSEPH NOONAN on 26 July 1941 in Plymouth, PA
  - b) JOHN KUTARNIA: "SONNY" born 5 March 1910, raised by grandmother KATARINA KUTARNIA and his AUNT HELEN. He was mentioned in his grandmother's will. Contracted tuberculosis and recuperated in the DeBoer Sanitarium in Browns Mills, NJ. Married VIOLET REYNOLDS in 1947. SONNY died in October 1957. VI married again to

LEONARD LEAMAN and lived on 2nd Street in Fieldsboro, NJ. She died in 1994 or 1995.

- i) JOHN KUTARNIA
  - ii) WILLIAM KUTARNIA: born 1951, wife CONNIE (b 1959), live in Escondido, CA.
  - iii) THOMAS KUTARNIA: works in Trenton, lives in Fieldsboro, NJ. (1995)
  - c) JOSEPH KUTARNIA: born 20 August 1911 in Simpson, Pa; died 28 May 1914 in Simpson, in Fell Township, after an acute bout of gastroenteritis. The information on his death certificate was supplied by his mother who gave her place of birth as England. He was buried in *Saint Rose of Lima Cemetery* in Carbondale.<sup>29</sup>
  - d) HELEN KUTARNIA: born 26 March 1913, Simpson; was living at 16 East South Street in Wilkes Barre, PA when she married CHARLES H. BROWN of Newark, NJ on 31 January 1942 in Wilkes Barre, PA.
- 3) ANNA MÁRIA KUTARNIA: baptized at *Saint Stephen's Roman Catholic Church* in Plymouth on 28 July 1889 by REVEREND JOSEPH KOŠALKO, the driving force behind the building of *Saint Stephen's* and listed as the church's rector from 1888 to 1890. Her Godparents were JOHN ELENČIK and MARY BENSLIK. A JOHN ELENČIK has been found in the 1900 census returns for Plymouth who would have been 19 at ANNA'S baptism. JOHN was a hotel proprietor and lived with his wife of five years at 133 East Main Street. The same census has a MARY BENEDIK or BENDIK who was just 15 at the time of the baptism. She lived with her husband MARTIN and their three children HELEN, THOMAS and ANTHONY at 101 East Main Street.<sup>30</sup> The church record gives her birth date as 22 July 1889; likewise, the birth certificate of her son JOSEPH gives the same date. She may have been named ANNA as the *Feast Day of SAINT ANN* falls on July 26 and is a widely-celebrated holiday in Slovakia. For most of her adult life she celebrated her birthday on June 21<sup>st</sup>, the summer solstice, for reasons unknown. This was also a widely celebrated nature holiday in which bonfires would be lit and young men would jump over them to show their prowess or a couple that was to court would jump as a way of publicly declaring the commitment. These fires were later called *Saint John's fires* to commemorate the day of SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST on June 24<sup>th</sup>. In 1940 she claimed to have completed just five years of school.<sup>31</sup> She married JOSEPH JOHN SMITH on 15 August 1905 at *Saint Anthony of Padua Church*. (continued on separate file)
- 4) JÁN KUTARNIA: a baptismal record has not been located and, for this reason, it cannot be said with certainty that the 16 year old that arrived in New York in 1899 is not the same person. JÁN worked as a laborer in the "oil mines" in 1910. He married before 1915 and his wife's name was JOSEPHINE (born 12 November 1892). In the 1920 census they were renting a house at 601 Delaware Street and sharing it with the MARJUCKOSKI family. He was a coal miner.<sup>32</sup> By 1930 they had purchased a home at 525 Susquehanna Avenue.<sup>33</sup> He was president of the Forest City Lodge Number 30 of the NSS in 1922, treasurer in 1930 and bookkeeper in 1933.<sup>34</sup> JOHN died on 4 December 1936 and was buried in *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*, Forest City on 9 December. JOSEPHINE died on 26 October 1974 and was buried with her husband on 29 October.
- a) JOHN KUTARNIA: born 31 August 1914, (SS#: 110076016); died 13 June 1975 in Irvington, Westchester County, New York. As he has a Veteran's file, he must have been in the Armed Forces. A JOHN and JOSEPHINE KUTARNIA were living in Poughkeepsie, NY in 1952 and 1955; perhaps JOHN lived near his brother FRANK.
  - i) BARBARA KUTARNIA: Yonkers, NY.

- b) FRANK A. KUTARNIA: born 22 November 1918, served in the US Army from 16 April 1942 to 23 October 1945; married DOLORES SKRAJNER, daughter of MARY SVETLIN and FELIX SKRAJNER (deceased) at *Saint Joseph's Catholic Church*, Forest City on 17 November 1945.<sup>35</sup> A FRANK and DOLORES KUTARNIA were living in New Rochelle, NY in 1950 and in Poughkeepsie, NY in 1955-57 but it has yet to be proved to be the same couple. (SS#: 202095421) He died 27 November 1972 (some records give year incorrectly as 1992). DOLORES died 17 February 2012. They are buried in Forest City at *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*.
- i) SYLVIA JOYCE KUTARNIA: born 29 October 1946 in White Plains, Westchester County NY. She died at 18 years old on 30 December 1964 in Hyde Park, Dutchess County, NY and was buried in *Saint Peters Cemetery* in Poughkeepsie, NY.
- c) ADAM KUTARNIA: died young
- d) MARGARET KUTARNIA: born 27 November 1923; married JOSEPH SPYHALSKI, Forest City. JOSEPH died 27 July 1993 and MARGARET on 6 September 2019; they are interred at *Saint Joseph's Cemetery* in Forest City.
- i) JOSEPH SPYHALSKI: married LINDA STAY, Vestal, NY
- ii) MARGARET SPYHALSKI: married JOHN "JACKIE" SMITH, great-grandson of JANOS SMID and ANNA UNTENER, Vestal NY.
- (1) MEG SMITH: born 1976
- (2) KATIE SMITH: born 1984
- e) ROBERT KUTARNIA: born 1926; married DOROTHY, Albuquerque, N.M.
- i) DONNA KUTARNIA
- ii) SANDY KUTARNIA
- f) SYLVIA KUTARNIA: born 1926; married FRANK KRESOCK; died before 1985.
- i) FRANK KRESOCK: married ROSEMARY, Danville, Pa.
- ii) CAROL KRESOCK: Chalfont, Pa.
- g) CELESTINE KUTARNIA: married EUGENE M. CICCO, Forest City, PA. EUGENE was born in Scranton, Lackawanna County, PA on 20 January 1930 and died in Dunmore in the same County on 2 August 2019; he was buried in *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery* in Forest City.
- i) JOANN CICCO: died young.
- ii) MARY CICCO: married and lived in NJ; in 2020 she lives in AZ and uses her maiden name.
- iii) SUSAN CICCO: married ROBERT RICHARDS; 2 children. Family lived in Carbondale (1990) and Forest City (2020), PA
- iv) EUGENE M. CICCO, JUNIOR: married; Carbondale, PA and Lake Winola in 2020.
- v) CHRISTINE CICCO: born circa 1968, Wilkes-Barre, PA; married DENNIS BROWN and moved to Florida.
- 5) MICHAL JÁN KUTARNIA: baptized on 26 March 1893 at *Saint Agnes' Church* by REVEREND J.J. CORONER and his Godparents were PETER MICA and ELIZABETH BITCHKA. This first Catholic Church was consecrated on 18 September 1892. He was a hotel bartender in 1910. By 1920 he was a merchant, had a wife named MARY SMOLKO, and lived at 730 Delaware Street, Forest City.<sup>36</sup> MARY was born in Jessup on 21 March 1896 to ANDREW SMOLKO and MARY KOZAK. He became a proprietor of a gas station in the town.<sup>37</sup> They were living on Railroad Street in Forest City when their son JOHN died in 1930. MARY died on 9 October

1937 from a cerebral hemorrhage. Their residence at that time was 404 Delaware Street and MICHAEL was at this address with CYRIL and MARIE in 1940.<sup>38</sup> She was buried in *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*. MICHAEL may have moved to Jessup, PA before moving to Robbinsville, NJ where he ran a farm. In 1954 he was working for his sister ANNA as a bartender at the Dayton House Pub in Trenton; he lived in Robbinsville.<sup>39</sup> He died 8 January 1961

- a) MICHAEL JOSEPH KUTARNIA: born 16 July 1917, married to ANNA "NINI" (born 10 May 1925, died November 1985). Appears to have moved to Buffalo, Erie County, NY between 1935 and 1940 and lived at 17 Richlawn Avenue with FRANK and MARGARET SMITH. MICHAEL died December 1992 in Rockville Center, Nassau County, NY.
  - i) ROSEANNE KUTARNIA
    - (1) (SON)
  - ii) JOSEPH KUTARNIA
- b) CYRIL KUTARNIA: born 6 March 1922; married wife CECELIA PANASOWICH, (born 19 November 1925 to ALEXANDER and MARTHA PANASOWICH) in 1945 and ran a service station in Robbinsville, NJ and lived at 260 Lynwood Avenue in Hamilton Township; he died November 1966 and was probably buried in *Saint Mary's Greek Catholic Cemetery* on Clover Avenue in Hamilton Township, New Jersey though his name does not appear on some cemetery inventories. CECELIA was living with her son in Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada by 1995 and she died there on 25 June 2011.
  - i) BARBARA KUTARNIA: married name is Dix, living in Cape May Courthouse, New Jersey in 2011.
  - ii) CELESTINE KUTARNIA: married name is SCHINKLE, living in Columbus, Burlington County, New Jersey in 2011.
- c) JOHN KUTARNIA: born 12 August 1926; died 19 April 1930 in "Winston Borough," Jessup, Lackawanna County from acute endocarditis. Buried in *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery* in Forest City.
- d) KENNETH KUTARNIA: living in Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada.
- e) MARIE CATHERINE KUTARNIA: born 2 September 1929, Forest City, Lackawanna County, PA. She married GEORGE W. HAND, JUNIOR who was born in Dutch Neck, Mercer County, NJ on 27 October 1928. GEORGE died 8 June 1991 in Riverhead, Suffolk County, NY and was buried in *Saint Patrick's Cemetery* in Southold, Suffolk County. MARIE moved to Lake Worth, Palm Beach County, FL and died there 8 August 1999; she was buried with her husband. Her application for a Social Security number names her mother as ANNA PIFFATH, as does her Find-A-Grave entry.
  - i) GEORGE W. HAND, III: of Southold in 1991.
  - ii) MICHAEL F HAND: of Mattituck, NY in 1991.
  - iii) ANNE MARIE HAND: married name ROSEN, lived in Florida in 1991.
  - iv) MARY ANN HAND: married name METZ, lived in Southold in 1991.

MICHAEL moved to Trenton and married after moving there for a second time, to ANNA PIFFATH (born 2 February 1898). She had been married to NIKOLAUS STOSS who died in 1939. MICHAEL died 8 January 1961 and was buried in *Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery* in Trenton, New Jersey. After MICHAEL'S death, ANNA lived on Lafayette Avenue in Trenton before moving to Long Island, NY where she lived with her stepdaughter MARIE. She passed away on 21 June 1985 and was buried next to her husband.

- 6) MÁRIA KUTARNIA: *MEARY* was baptized at *Saint Agnes' Church* by REVEREND J.J. CORONER on 3 February 1895 with sponsors being STEPHEN MURRAY and ANNA VARGA. She was a *spinner* in a silk mill in 1910. She married JOSEPH J. PISARCIK (born 6 December 1888, Spisská Stará Ves, Kežmarok, Slovakia) on 29 May 1911. They lived in Ashley, PA for a time and then moved to Camden, NJ. MARY died on 4 April 1924 in Camden and was interred in Ashley, PA. JOSEPH then married MARY GRUTKA in Newark, NJ in 1925 or 1926. She was also born in Stará Ves; she died 29 July 1946. He then married ANNA PETERLY in Camden, NJ in May 1949. JOSEPH died 18 September 1971 in Camden, NJ
- a) ELIZABETH MARIE PISARCIK: *BETTY* born 11 June 1912, Ashley, PA; married 1933 GEORGE STEELMAN (died 8 September 1987, Fl.); died 17 July 1995, Sarasota, Fl. BETTY's last known address is: 1908 Barstow Place, Sarasota, FL 34235.
    - i) GEORGE H. STEELMAN, JUNIOR: born 15 January 1935, Camden, NJ
      - (1) ROSS P. STEELMAN: born March 1983
    - ii) MARGARET A. STEELMAN: born 22 July 1941, Salem, NJ; married ROY STANFIELD, 27 October 1962.
      - (1) MICHAEL PAUL STANFIELD: born 9 August 1963
      - (2) JESSICA MICHELE STANFIELD: born 13 October 196?
      - (3) THERESA LYNN STANFIELD: born 24 October 1964, married MICHAEL HARRIS in Cape Town, Africa on 23 March 1992.
      - (4) JEFFREY ROY STANFIELD: born 25 May 1967, lives in Philadelphia.
  - b) MARGARET PISARCIK: born 21 September 1916, Ashley, PA, married FRANCIS JOSEPH MAHALA, born 26 March 1916, died 16 July 1983, Salem, NJ. Last known address for MARGARET: 42 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Salem, NJ 08079. They had 9 children including triplets:
    - i) FRANCIS JOSEPH MAHALA, JUNIOR: born 18 June 1943, married DIANE FEDORA, 1966
      - (1) KELLI MAHALA: married JON RUIZ.
        - (a) JACOB RUIZ: born 1991.
    - ii) ELIZABETH CECELIA MAHALA: born 25 November 1946, married 1st ROBERT POWELL (deceased):
      - (1) STEFAN POWELL
      - (2) VINSON POWELL
      - (3) NICOLE POWELLAfter ROBERT's death, ELIZABETH then married TOM GRAHAM.
      - (4) LAUREN GRAHAM
    - iii) RITA JEAN MAHALA: born 7 May 1951, married GUY LUDLAM, divorced:
      - (1) DARREN LUDLAM
      - (2) DANE LUDLAMRITA married a second time, to RUSS CRAMMER.
    - iv) DAVID MICHAEL MAHALA: born 29 January 1954, married JOYCE, divorced:
      - (1) JANELL MAHALA
      - (2) MICHAEL MAHALAAfter divorcing JOYCE, DAVID married SUSAN.
      - (3) CHRISTOPHER MAHALA: born 1987.
    - v) PHILLIP JOHN MAHALA: born 24 February 1955, married CINDY. PHILLIP adopted her son JOHN.
      - (1) JEREMY MAHALA
      - (2) ASHLEY KAITALYN MAHALA: born 1991

- vi) JOHN STEPHEN MAHALA: born 7 March 1956, married MARY.
  - (1) THERESA MAHALA
  - (2) KATIE MAHALA
  - (3) STEPHEN John MAHALA: born 1990
- vii) THOMAS JOHN MAHALA: born 8 March 1956, married JUDY.
  - (1) MEGHAN ELIZABETH MAHALA
  - (2) SCOTT EDWARD MAHALA
  - (3) AMY JOANNA MAHALA: born 1991
- viii) ROSEANNA THERESA MAHALA: born 8 March 1956; she was first married to a man with the surname DAVIS, were divorced; she then married a second time, to DAVID GARIBALDI on 24 October 1987.
- ix) JOSEPH ANDREW MAHALA: born 9 December 1959, single.
- c) JOSEPH A. PISARCIK: born 26 November 1919, Camden, NJ, mar. 23 November 1940, Salem, NJ to JULIE MAHALA (sister of FRANK). Last known address: 190 Crossland Avenue, Salem, NJ 08079. They had:
  - i) JOSEPH H. PISARCIK: married first ANN, divorced; married unnamed wife.
- d) JOHN JOSEPH PISARCIK: born 11 December 1920, Camden, NJ; married GENEVIEVE JUSIAK on 1 March 1940 in Camden, NJ; last known address: 106 Albany Avenue, Barrington, NJ 08007. They had:
  - i) JOHN JOSEPH PISARCIK, JUNIOR: born 6 August 1941, married LENORA, Maryland, 3 children.
  - ii) AGNES ELIZABETH PISARCIK: born 11 December 1942, married RUSS WURST, 3 children.
  - iii) JOAN HELEN PISARCIK: married VINCE D'ELIA:
    - (1) BERNADETTE D'ELIA
  - iv) EDWARD PISARCIK: married first [*unk*]; 2 daughters; married 2<sup>nd</sup> ELEANOR:
    - (1) JENNY PISARCIK
    - (2) JOHN ADAM PISARCIK
  - v) BERNARD C. PISARCIK: born 7 March 1948, married VIRGINIA BACHMAN.
  - vi) DOLORES EILEEN PISARCIK: born 23 August 1949, married BUD WEISSER; 3 children.
  - vii) JEAN ANN PISARCIK
  - viii) PATRICIA ELLEN PISARCIK: born 29 July 1951, married DOMINIC CENTOZA.
  - ix) JAMES PISARCIK: married MARGIE; 2 sons.
  - x) CHARLES PISARCIK: married MARYANN; 4 children.
  - xi) EILEEN LOUISE PISARCIK: married DAVE McMULLEN:
    - (1) KRISTY McMULLEN
    - (2) KATHY McMULLEN
  - xii) KATHLEEN PISARCIK: deceased.
  - xiii) JOSEPH ANDREW PISARCIK: b 10 June 1958, married HELEN, 3 sons.
  - xiv) TERESA PISARCIK: deceased.
  - xv) ANDREW PISARCIK
  - xvi) BERNADETTE PISARCIK: married BRIAN NICHOLS, lives in Bradenton, Fl.:
    - (1) BRIAN NICHOLS: born 1989
    - (2) CHARLES NICHOLS: born 1994
  - xvii) MICHAEL PISARCIK

xviii) JENNIFER PISARCIK: born 1968

- e) MARIE E. PISARCIK: born 17 February 1923, Camden, NJ; was brought up by grandmother and aunt, HELEN GLEASON; married JOHN TAKACH, 12 October 1946. Live at 133 Philmont Avenue, Trenton 08610. In the course of a conversation between this author and his father's wife JOAN, on 25 May 2004, it was learned that VALENTINE and JOAN, while walking around Veteran's Park in Hamilton, NJ during visits in 2000 – 2002 to VAL'S twin sister KATHRYN and husband BRUNO SPYCH, they would occasionally run into MARIE.

- i) CAROL TAKACH: married.  
ii) DIANE TAKACH: married.  
iii) JOHN TAKACH: married, divorced.

There are  
at least four  
grandchildren.

- 7) KATARÍNA KUTARNIA: *KATTIE* was born on *Delaware Street* in Forest City. She was baptized at *SAINT ANTHONY'S CHURCH* in Forest City on 3 July 1897, sponsors being ANDREW VARGA and MARY MURIN. The county vital records have her birth date as 2 July 1897, being recorded in September 1897. The church date is probably correct as that record was much nearer to the actual event. She became Bernadine Sister known as SISTER MARY BŁOGOSŁAWA (pronounced *Bwó-ga-sla-va*) and lived at the *Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church* and School at 728 Center Street, Mahanoy City, Pa. She died on 30 December 1929 from chronic pulmonary tuberculosis which she had for 8 years. She was buried in a cemetery in Reading, PA, probably one that was affiliated with *Assumption Church* and/or the Bernadines. Her mother was the informant named on her death certificate.<sup>40</sup>
- 9) ŠTEFAN KUTARNIA: baptized at *Saint Anthony's Church* on 15 August 1899, sponsors being STEPHEN MURIN and ANNA VARGA. He completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade before becoming a driver for the coalmines as shown in the 1920 census. He married LORRAINE (born 24 February 1905). They were renting a home at 621 Hudson Street in 1940 and lived in Forest City all their lives. No children. STEVE died 21 October 1974 and is buried in *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*. LORRAINE lived in Forest City until her death on 12 October 1999.
- 10) HELENA KUTARNIA: baptized at *Saint Anthony's Church* on 28 June 1903, sponsors being JOHN PENCZAK and ANNA VARGA.<sup>41</sup> Her birth certificate, recorded four months later, gives her birth date as 9 May 1903. The church records which were created two days after her birth are mmoswt likely more accurate and therefore correct; Social Security records also have the same date as the church records. She married HERMAN GLEASON (buried *Colonial Cemetery*, Trenton, NJ) on 3 September 1926 in Forest City.<sup>42</sup> They may have been together earlier as is thought they lived in Simpson, PA in 1922 and moved back to the KUTARNIA homestead in Forest City in 1924. HELEN helped her mother raise MARIE PISARCIK, 1 year old daughter of her sister MARY who died in 1924. The GLEASON family paid \$4.00 a month in rent in 1930. HELEN and HERMAN moved to Trenton for an unknown period of time after 1930. They were divorced and HELEN returned to Forest City. She died 5 August 1994.
- a) ROBERT GLEASON: born 3 June 1927; died 1 September 1984 from a self-inflicted gunshot wound, Forest City, PA.
- b) EDWARD GLEASON: "DUNDEE" married & divorced JOYCE RISTO, Forest City.

## Image Sources

Castle Garden is from: Gene Askamit "Castle Garden – America's First Immigrant Receiving Station" *Naše rodina* (12)2: 41,46, June 2000

Steamships SS *Westphalia* and SS *Dania* are from Arnold Kludas and Herbert Bischoff, *Die Schiffe der Hamburg-Amerika Linie*, Bd. 1: 1847-1906 (Herford: Koehler, 1979), pp. 28, 49.

Ellis Island images and CGSI certificate images are from the private collection of the author.

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> Most dates obtained from Archives of the Slovak Republic at Levoca

<sup>2</sup> File 40548, Joseph Kutarnia and File 28035, Catherine Kutarnia; Pennsylvania Dept. of Health, 101 S. Mercer St., Newcastle, Pa. 16103

<sup>3</sup> Hamburg Direct Passenger Lists, 10 March 1886, and New York Passenger Arrivals, 22 March 1886; SS *Westphalia*. Background information on ship and processing from: "Naše Rodina, Newsletter of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International," Vol. 7, No. 3, Sept. 1995, pp.96-100 and vol. 12, No. 2, June 2000, pp.41-49.

<sup>4</sup> *Directory of Plymouth and Nanticoke* (Pittston, PA: TP Robinson, 1889) 243.

<sup>5</sup> Hamburg Direct Passenger Departures, 26 June 1890, passenger 271; and New York Passenger Arrivals, 8 July 1890, passenger 226; SS *Dania*.

<sup>6</sup> *New York Times*, 24 August 1890 and 30 June 1895. Michael P. Palmer, *DANIA* (1889, 1896), Palmer List of Merchant Vessels, revised 16 March 2001 (archived page) and *DANIA / MONTSERRAT* 1889, *theshipslist.com*; both citing: Noel Reginald Pixell Bonsor, *North Atlantic Seaway; An Illustrated History of the Passenger Services Linking the Old World with the New* (2nd ed.; Jersey, Channel Islands: Brookside Publications), vol. 1 (1975), p. 396, and vol.3,p.1247,1255.

<sup>7</sup> National Slovak Society, Paid Insurance Claims, Joseph Kutarnia, Mbr. 549, Acct. 148, Claim register 9815, paid insurance claim 5563; Katarina Kutarnia, mbr. 31517, acct. 278, paid insurance claim 11751; records in possession of Immigrant History Research Center, University of Minnesota, 826 Berry St., St. Paul, MN. 55114-1076. Information used with permission of Immigrant History Research Center.

<sup>8</sup> Recorder of Deeds, Susquehanna County Court House, Montrose, Pa. Deed book 97, p. 564; deed book 115, p. 202; deed book 117, pp.323-324; deed book 147, p. 722, deed book 167, p.189; deed book 187, p. 3.

<sup>9</sup> National Slovak Society (See Note 7)

<sup>10</sup> 1900 US Census: PA, Susquehanna County, Town of Forest City, 7th Ward, 7 June 1900, p.10A, family 169, dwelling 113, lines 41-55; LDS Microfilm T623, Roll 1488, Enumeration District 81. and 1910 US Census: PA, Susquehanna County, Town of Forest City, 1st Ward, 23 April 1910, p. 12A, family 200,dwelling 109, lines 6-14; LDS Microfilm T624, roll 1421, enumeration district 64. and 1920 US Census: PA, Susquehanna County, Forest City Borough, 20 January 1920, p. 123, sheet 15A, family 239, dwelling 218,lines 25-30; LDS microfilm T625, roll 1655, E.D.68.

<sup>11</sup> Mary (Smith) Neville, Conversation, 25 January 1989, Placentia, Ca.

<sup>12</sup> Helen (Kutarnia) Gleason, conversation with Barbra Matuszewski, 21 October 1985; Washington Crossing, Pa.; cassette tape in possession of author.

<sup>13</sup> National Slovak Society (See Note 7)

<sup>14</sup> *Forest City News*, 636 Main St., Forest City, Pa. 18421; 20 April 1922.

<sup>15</sup> National Slovak Society (See Note 7)

<sup>16</sup> Katarinia Kutarnia, will of; Register of Wills, Susquehanna County Court House, Montrose, Pa.:

<sup>17</sup> *Forest City News*, op. cit., 9 March 1933

<sup>18</sup> 1940 US Census: Pennsylvania, Susquehanna Co, Forest City Borough, 9 April 1940, ED 58-11, sht 7A, fam. 112, lines 1-6.

<sup>19</sup> John N. Obelenus, Highlights of Forest City Borough History (*Forest City News*, 1938) 41 - 54.

<sup>20</sup> *Naše Rodina*, Volume 13, 2:60-62, June 2001.

<sup>21</sup> Information regarding the children mostly obtained through correspondence and conversations with Helen Gleason, Margaret Spyhalski and Celestine Cicco of Forest City, Pa.; with Kathryn Spych of Trenton, NJ; and with Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 612 Hudson St., Forest City, Pa.

<sup>22</sup> World War I Registration Card, # 37-4-34, Forest City.

<sup>23</sup> 1940 US Census: PA, Susquehanna County, Forest City Borough, 9 April 1940, ED 58-11, sheet 7A, household 112, lines 1-6.

<sup>24</sup> Marriage License, Frank Kutarnia and Mary Gilmore, 29 Dec. 1905; Susquehanna County Court House, Montrose, Pa. 18801

<sup>25</sup> World War I Registration Card, serial # 2587, Lackawanna County, Division 4, Carbondale.

<sup>26</sup> 1920 US Census: PA, Lackawanna County, Fell Tp. (Simpson), 9 Jan. 1920, ED 55, sheet 8, fam.114, dw.83, lines 8-9.,

<sup>27</sup> Carbondale City Directory (RL Polk & Co., 1927) 188.

<sup>28</sup> Certificate of death, Frank Kutarnia, 5 Aug. 1928, File 84371; Pennsylvania Division of Vital Records, 101 S. Mercer St., New Castle, Pa.

<sup>29</sup> Kutarnia, Joseph, certificate of death, No. 47565, Lackawanna County, PA.

<sup>30</sup> 1900 US Census: PA, Luzerne County, Plymouth, p. 66A (Mary) and 66B (John),

<sup>31</sup> 1940 US Census: NJ, Mercer Co, Trenton, 11<sup>th</sup> Ward, block 45, 18 April 1940, ED 27-89, sheet 7A, dwelling 133, Ins 24-30.

<sup>32</sup> 1920 US Census: PA, Susquehanna County, Forest City Borough, 12 Jan. 1920, ED 69, sheet 5, fam.74, dw.66, ln.92-96;

<sup>33</sup> 1930 US Census: PA, Susquehanna County, Forest City Borough, ED 38-11, sheet 2A, family 28, dwelling 28, lines 39-45.

<sup>34</sup> National Slovak Society (See Note 6)

<sup>35</sup> *Slovenian Marriages as Reported in the Forest City News*; <http://feehs.org/slovenia>; 1996, Slovenia Genealogical Society and Federation of Eastern European History Societies.

<sup>36</sup> 1920 US Census: PA, Susquehanna County, Forest City Borough, 14 Jan. 1920, ED 70, sheet 13, fam.229, dw.206, ln.73-75.

<sup>37</sup> John N. Obelenus. Highlights of Forest City Borough History. (*Forest City News*, 1938) 104.

<sup>38</sup> 1940 US Census: Pennsylvania, Susquehanna County, Forest City Borough, 120 April 1940, ED 58-11, sheet 9A, fam. 149, lines 8-10.

<sup>39</sup> *Trenton, Mercer County, Parts of Ewing, Hamilton and Lawrence*, (RL Polk & Co, 1954) 344.

<sup>40</sup> Bohuslava, Sister Mary, certificate of death, Schuylkill County, PA.

<sup>41</sup> St. Anthony's Church Baptismal Register, deposited at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 612 Hudson St., Forest City, Pa. 18421.

<sup>42</sup> Application for Marriage License, 1926, No. 1541, 5 August 1926, Lackawanna County.